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REMARKS

Election

Claims 1-42 are pending in this application. The examiner has indicated that the claims relate to three different inventions, namely:

- Group I, claims 1 32, directed to a vibrational assembly of an implantable hearing device;
- Group Π, claims 33 38, 41 and 42, directed to a microphone; and
- Group III, claims 39 and 40, directed to a method of surgically implanting a vibrator.

The applicant elects Group I for further prosecution. Claims 33 - 42 have been cancelled.

Inventorship

With the cancellation of the claims in Groups II and III, the Applicant requests that the inventorship of the application be amended to remove Alan LUPIN as an inventor pursuant to 37 CFR §1.48(b), as Mr. Lupin's invention is no longer being claimed in the application. The Applicant encloses a request to have Mr. Lupin removed, as well as the processing fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i) and the associated form (PTO/SB/17i).

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CONCLUSION

All restriction requirements having been met, the Applicant looks forward to further prosecution in due course.

Date: September 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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